

Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 SCCT-01 /057 W

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O 082040Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3032

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, AR, ASEC

SUBJECT: CONTINUING TERRORIST-MILITARY CLASHES

REF: BA-6675

1. ACCORDING TO NEWS ACCOUNTS AT LEAST 12 TERRORISTS DIED IN AN ABORTIVE ATTEMPT TO RESCUE COMRADES PLACED IN HOSPITAL AS RESULT OF FORMOSA ATTACK. FOUR TERRORIST SNIPERS ALSO WERE REPORTED KILLED IN FORMOSA CITY BY SECURITY FORCES FOLLOWING MAIN ATTACK (SEE REFTEL).

2. THIS SIXTEEN PLUS THOSE REPORTEDLY DISCOVERED DEAD BY SEARCH PARTIES AFTER THE MAIN ASSAULT BRINGS ESTIMATED DEATH TOLL AS HIGH AS 49.

3. THREE CLASHES BETWEEN MILITARY FORCES AND GUERRILLAS IN WESTERN TUCUMAN LAST NIGHT (OCT 7) MAY HAVE RESULTED IN AS MANY AS 40 TERRORISTS AND FOUR MILITARY DEAD, AND FROM 15 TO 25 TERRORISTS CAPTURED ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED NEWS REPORTS. ONE NEWS STORY SAYS GUERRILLA UNIT AMBUSHED ARMY PATROL. PRESS ACCOUNTS ARE CONFLICTING AND RELEASE OF MILITARY ANNOUNCEMENT IS EXPECTED THIS AFTERNOON (OCT 8).

4. EARLY OCT 8, A SMALL BAND OF ERP ACTIVISTS REPORTEDLY

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TOOK CONTROL OF A METALWORKS FACTORY IN BUENOS AIRES

PROVINCE. THE TAKEOVER WAS SHORT-LIVED AND THE ONLY
APPARENT PURPOSE WAS TO PAINT SLOGANS ON THE WALLS.

5. ON THE WHOLE, THE TERRORISTS HAVE HAD A VERY BAD
KICK-OFF TO THE WEEK CELEBRATING THE DEATH OF CHE
GUEVARA. THE MILITARY APARENTLY HAS BEEN VERY WELL
INFORMED AND PREPARED. WHETHER OR NOT THIS IS REPRESENTATIVE
OF NEW LEVEL OF EFFICIENCY OR JUST LUCK REMAINS TO BE SEEN.
HILL

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